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000 Africa, East. Hobley.

Notes concerning the Elderobo of Mau, British East Africa. 17
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10 To the east of Nandi country, in the Mau Forest north-east of Mount Tinderet, live
[294] a tribe of so-called Elderobo people, who, like other branches of their race, exist solely
[233] by hunting, and possess neither flocks nor herds, neither do they cultivate the soil.
[241]
648 By the Nandi they are called the Ogginik, and they call themselves the Omotik.
[191] They have intimate relations with the Eastern Nandi, and generally speak the Nandi
[663] language: in fact, members of the young Nandi men, for whom the free hunting life has
a charm, leave their homes and go and settle among these people for some years, and
probably marry Ogginik women. It is thus difficult to discover what is the true
142 aboriginal type of the race. The representatives with whom I have come in contact
had, however, redder complexions than the majority of the Nandi, and had very peculiar
eyes, which reminded one somewhat of the Mongolian type. In height they averaged
5 feet 8 inches to 5 feet 10 inches.

583 Their marriage customs are very simple: the suitor merely presents the father of
the girl with some beer made from the sap of the "mkindo," or wild date palm, and a
few monkey-skin cloaks, or "kwenon," and takes away his bride.

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depths of the forests on that mountain. The incident was referred to in a description of the journey in the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society*, August 1892 and August 1894. During thirteen long years nothing was heard of these people, nor does any other traveller seem to have referred to them; it was therefore with some interest that a representative of these people was discovered in a Dorobo colony found on the north-east side of the Aberdare range in the vicinity of Fis swamp, and it was then elucidated that the bearded people are the Digiri clan of the Oggiek tribe, and that they acknowledge as their ruler a chieftainess named Ongiboro who lives near Nyuri Sto. She is married to one Silkirui, who is also said to be one of the bearded people. Needless to remark, the possession of beards and their acknowledgment of a female ruler are features of great rarity in Central Africa. Although the information is still very scanty, it has been considered advisable to communicate it in the hope that it may prove an incentive to further research. I append short comparative vocabularies of these dialects of the Oggiek language, and at the same time give in separate columns the Nandi and Masai equivalents for purpose of comparison. It will at once be seen that some words are the same in Oggiek language as Nandi, and other words are the same as Masai. At first sight it might appear that the Oggiek had borrowed these words from Nandi and Masai, but it is rather remarkable to find the Digiri clan of Oggiek, whose great haunt is the Kenia forest, using many Nandi words when practically the only languages spoken in that region are Masai and Kikuyu.

They all speak Masai because there are a number of poor Masai living among them—people who lost all their cattle in the plague of 1891 and after that took to a hunting life. It therefore seems to me highly probable that the so-called Nandi words used by the Digiri people may be true Oggiek words gradually borrowed by the Nandi and now incorporated with the Nandi language; in the same way a few Oggiek words may have become incorporated with Masai. The subject is one of great interest, and it is to be regretted that our opportunities of studying these people are so infrequent.

The following is a list of the Oggiek clans:—

Clan.	Chief.	Clan.	Chief.
Oggiek of Kamilio or Tindwit	Elposegtian.	Oggiek on the Mau range, west of Nakuru	Kiptuwosk.
Oggiek, east of Lumbwa country	Pikshem.	Do. do.	Kamiek.
Oggiek in Eldama Ravine	Kshimengirin.	Oggiek, south-west Kenia and also Fis swamp	Digiri.
Oggiek, north of Kenia	Shiiwek.	Oggiek of Kisima, north of Enasa Nyiro	Lalarick.
Oggiek of Loldiani	Kaivatet.	Oggiek, south of Ndabibi plain, south-west of Naivasha	Saleta.
Oggiek on the Mau range, west of Nakuru	Chitcharwasek.		

The head Laibon of the Oggiek is said to be one Lamondo, who lives with the Masai at Ngong loi Mariko, a hill in the region of the Lower Kedong.

The Digiri have a chieftainess named Ongiboro who is said to live near Nyuri or Kakuyu in North Kikuyu. I would mention that I am indebted to Mr. A. C. Hollis for the Masai equivalents in the vocabulary.